Alabama Baptist
Assoc.
1850

ALABAMA BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MINUTES

OF THE

THIRTY-FIRST ANNIVERSARY

ALABAMA BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

OF THE

ALABAMA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

HELD WITH THE

MT. GILEAD CHURCH, LOWNDES CO., ALA.

1850.

MONTGOMERY:
J. H. & T. F. MARTIN'S BOOK & JOB OFFICE.

MINUTES

OF THE

THIRTY-FIRST ANNIVERSARY

OF THE

ALABAMA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

HELD WITH THE

MT. GILEAD CHURCH, LOWNDES CO., ALA.

1850.

MONTGOMERY:
J. H. & T. F. MARTIN'S BOOK & JOB OFFICE.

MINUTES, &c.

The Alabama Baptist Association, convened at Mt. Gilead Meeting House, Lowndes County, on Friday, the 11th of October, 1850.

Elder H. Talbird being absent, the introductory sermon was preached by Elder A. W. Chambliss, from the 119th Psalm, 105th verse.

After an intermission of one hour, the Delegates assembled, and were called to order by the former Moderator, who introduced the services by singing and prayer.

Called for the letters from the Churches composing this body; which were read by Brethren Murphy, Lundy and Cook, and the names of the messengers enrolled.

Proceeded to the election of Officers; resulted as follows: Elder David Lee, Moderator; A. T. M. Handey, Clerk; Bro. W. B. Haralson, Treasurer.

The Moderator announced the Association organized and ready to proceed to the regular order of business.

Visiting ministering brethren present (not messengers) were invited to seats in the body.

Opened the door for the admission of Churches desiring membership with this Association, whereupon letters of petition were presented from two recently constituted Churches, viz: Philadelphia, Montgomery county, and Zion, Covington county; which were cordially received.

The Moderator announced the Standing Committees, as follows:

On Documents.—D. P. J. Murphy, C. H. Cleveland, M. McLemore, R. P. Lide, S. Frederick.

On the State of the Churches.—P. H. Lundy, J. W. W. Cook, J. H. Cogburn.

On Preaching.—Green Rives, R. Carson, and the Deacons of Mt. Gilead Church.

On Finance.—J. K. Barton, D. Gordon, W. S. Foster.

On Missions.—R. J. Ware, Wm. Williams, H. W. Watson, B. F. Hardy, J. Brazer.

Auditing Committee.—M. B. Hinkle, J. S. Cleveland, Jas. E. Moss.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, 9 o'clock. Prayer by Elder Murphy.

SATURDAY MORNING, 9 O'CLOCK.

The Association met. Prayer by the Clerk.

On motion,

Resolved, That any delinquent member of this Association who shall be absent at the call of the roll, be required to render to the Clerk his excuse for non-attendance immediately upon his entrance into the house; and failing to do which, such delinquent shall be marked absent, and it shall thus appear upon our minutes.

Called the roll. Absent E. J. Hardy, J. O. Miller, J. M. Armstrong, O. Lamar, A. L. Haralson, H. Talbird.

Read the Minutes of yesterday's proceedings.

Called for Correspondence from sister Associations and received as follows:

From the *Tuskegee* Association, a Letter by the hands of brethren Benj. Mott and J. M. Newman.

From the *Salem*—a Letter through her Messengers, brethren G. G. McLendon and Wm. Lee.

From the *Cahawba*—a Letter and package of Minutes by her Messenger, brother J. J. Bradford.

From the *Bethel*—Letter and Minutes by the hands of brother A. Holmes, her Messenger.

A Letter and Circular Address were received from five Churches recently dismissed from the Mulberry Association, asking this body to appoint ministers to meet them on Saturday before the fourth Sabbath in October, at Bethesda Church, Autauga county, for the purpose of assisting in the formation of a new Association, upon missionary grounds, and Baptist principles. The request was granted, and Elders D. P. J. Murphy, P. H. Lundy, and H. Talbird appointed to attend said meeting.

Returned correspondence, and appointed

To the *Bethlehem* Association, brethren D. P. J. Murphy, W. T. Streety, David Lee.

To the *Liberty*, brethren E. B. Holloway, Levi Parks, J. R. Malone.

To the *Mulberry*, brethren R. J. Ware, C. H. Cleveland, J. Johnston, A. T. M. Handey. Bro. Ware to write the Letter.

To the *Tuskegee*, J. G. Dick, E. B. Adams, T. Cook, Thos. Barlow, H. W. Watson, Wm. Williams, J. H. Cogburn, H. Talbird, A. T. M. Handey.

To the *Central*, J. H. Cogburn, C. P. Zimmerman.

To the *Salem*, E. B. Adams, J. G. Dick, J. W. W. Cook, A. Boyd, Thos. Youngblood, Wm. Moncrief, T. K. Padget, A. T. M. Handey.

Elder G. B. Davis, Agent of the Indian Mission Association, obtained leave to address the body on the object of his mission. At the close of his remarks, the members contributed the sum of $37 to sustain a minister among the Indians.

Elder A. W. Chambliss, Editor of the "*South-Western Baptist*," was also introduced to the Association, and made some remarks touching the interest of his paper.

The Association then took a recess for one hour.

AFTERNOON SESSION—2 O'CLOCK.

Met and resumed business.

Appointed Bro. William Williams to write the General Corresponding letter.

The next annual meeting of this body appointed to be held with Antioch Church, Montgomery county, to commence on Friday before the second Lord's Day in Oct. 1851. Elder P. H. Lundy to preach the introductory sermon; alternate, Elder Matthew Bishop. Elder H. Talbird to preach the missionary sermon on Sabbath; Elder D. P. J. Murphy, alternate.

The Missionary Board made their Report—read and refered to the committee on missions.

Called for the Reports of our Missionaries, which were read and refered to the committee on missions.

The Special Committee appointed to take into consideration the application for the support of a Beneficiary in Howard College, reported the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the funds sent up to this Association at its present session for Beneficiaries in Howard College, be applied to the support of Bro. Jonathan Bell, a member of Union Church, in this Association, and now a student of said institution; and that we recommend to the Churches composing this body to send up annually funds to defray the expense of Bro. Bell, until the completion of his education: And any surplus that may be on hand after paying for his support, shall be appropriated to the benefit of the other Beneficiaries, should their condition require it.

On motion, the Board of Domestic Missions appointed at the last session, was elected to act for the next year; and that they be authorised to fill any vacancies that may occur during the year.

On motion, appointed Delegates to the State Convention, viz: C. H. Cleveland, P. H. Lundy, J. R. Malone, L. Edwards, B. F. Hardy, I. Lyon, H. Talbird, A. T. M. Handey, Thomas J. Molton, J. H. Cogburn. Bro. Talbird to write the Letter.

The Committee on Documents presented their report, which was received, and the consideration of the clause touching the application of Greenville Church, postponed till Monday morning.

A Circular Address from the President of the Board of Directors of Howard College was read, and its consideration postponed till Monday next.

Bro. C. H. Cleveland, from the committee appointed at

our last session to visit Liberty and Pisgah Churches, reported verbally, that the committee had discharged that duty, and that the difficulty heretofore existing between these churches had been settled to the satisfaction of both parties. Report received and the committee discharged.

Adjourned till Monday morning, 9 o'clock.

THE LORD'S DAY EXERCISES.

The following ministers, according to the arrangement of the Committee on Preaching, occupied the stand erected in the grove near the meeting-house. At 10 o'clock, Elder D. P. J. MURPHY preached; at 11, the Missionary Sermon was delivered by A. T. M. HANDEY; at the close of which a collection for the spread of the Gospel was taken up, amounting to $76 43. During the recess, Elder J. R. HAGGARD preached to the colored congregation. In the afternoon, the stand was occupied by Elder DAVID PEEBLES. These brethren preached the word to a very large and attentive audience. Preaching was continued at night at several private houses in the neighborhood.

MONDAY MORNING, 9 O'CLOCK.

The Delegates met—Elder G. G. MCLENDON prayed—called the roll—absentees, Isaac N. Dennis, J. G. Collins, H. Talbird.

Read and corrected the minutes of Saturday's proceedings.

The Committee on Finance reported. Refered to the Auditing Committee.

On motion,

Resolved, That the amount of the collection taken up yesterday, after the Missionary Sermon, be divided equally between the Foreign and Domestic Missionary Boards of the Southern Baptist Convention, and the Indian Mission Association.

Took up the unfinished business of Saturday.

In reply to the interrogatories sent to this body by the Board of Directors of Howard College,

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this Association, that the best plan to raise the funds so contemplated, will be by some systematic plan within the churches, without the use of Agents; and that the whole be transmitted through their respective Associations.

The Preamble and Resolutions offered on Saturday by Bro. CONE, in regard to our Anti-Missionary brethren, were called up, and, on motion,

Resolved, That said Preamble and Resolutions be refered to a committee of five, to be appointed from this body, and that they be instructed to report upon the same at our next annual meeting.

The chair appointed, in accordance with the foregoing Re-

solution, the following brethren said committee:—W. B. Haralson, W. N. Cone, H. W. Watson, R. J. Ware, A. T. M. Handey.

The Treasurer of the Association, Bro. W. B. Haralson, read his report; received, and, on motion, refered to the Auditing Committee.

Voted that the Treasurer pay to Greenville Church the sum of fifty dollars out of the funds sent up for Domestic Missions in the bounds of this Association.

On motion, adjourned for one hour.

AFTERNOON SESSION—2 O'CLOCK.

Met at the appointed hour and resumed business. Granted letters of dismission to New Bethel and Vernon Churches, to unite with other Associations more convenient.

The Auditing Committee reported that they had examined the accounts of the Treasurer and Financial Committee, and found them correct.

The Report of the Committee on Missions was read and adopted.

Read and adopted the general Corresponding Letter.

The special Letter of Correspondence to the Mulberry Association read and adopted.

Ordered, that the monies sent up for Indian Missions from the churches; and also the amount collected at this Association for the same object, be sent up to the State Convention.

The following Preamble and Resolution were unanimously passed:

Whereas it is contemplated by our brethren at Hayneville, Lowndes county, to establish a Female School of high character at that place, for the benefit of the surrounding vicinity; therefore

Resolved, That this Association give its sanction to this undertaking, and hereby certify to our brethren at Hayneville, that they have our best wishes and earnest prayers for their success.

Voted that the Articles of Faith of this Association be printed with the minutes of the present session.

Ordered, that the Clerk have as many copies of the minutes printed as the funds in hand for that purpose will justify; and that he receive thirty dollars to pay expenses, &c.

Resolved, That this Association tender their sincere thanks to the brethren and friends in this vicinity for their hospitality and kindness to the members of this body during its present session.

On motion, the Association adjourned to meet at Antioch Church, Montgomery county, on Friday before the second Lord's day in October, 1851. On closing the services, the Moderator made some appropriate and touching remarks.—Prayer was offered by Elder Talbird; and while an hymn

was being sung, the Delegates took an affectionate leave of each other. Thus closed one of the most pleasant and numerously attended sessions ever held by this body.

DAVID LEE, *Moderator.*

A. T. M. HANDEY, *Clerk.*

APPENDIX.

CORRESPONDING LETTER.

The ALABAMA ASSOCIATION to her sister Associations in correspondence, sendeth Christian salutation:

Dearly Beloved Brethren:—In the providence of God, we are again permitted the pleasure of addressing you by this general letter, and meeting you through our Messengers. We are sorry we cannot communicate to you any news of special interest, concerning most of the Churches within our bounds. Whilst all of them are enjoying unity, peace, and harmony, and gradually growing in the grace and knowledge of God, yet only a very few have experienced revival seasons during the last associational year: Yet we believe that God is blessing us, and will do so yet more abundantly. Brethren! let us labor together with increased zeal, faithfulness and perseverance—esteeming it an unspeakably high honor to be used by our Heavenly Father as instruments for the promotion of His glory. May it be "our hearts' desire and prayer to God" that His kingdom may come. To this end, let us labor by a "patient continuance in well doing," and by a diligent and proper employment of all the means and instrumentalities which He has placed within our control: And may the blessing of God rest upon all your operations, and prosper all your efforts. Finally, dear brethren, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

DAVID LEE, *Moderator.*

A. T. M. HANDEY, *Clerk.*

REPORT OF THE MISSIONARY BOARD.

Your Missionary Board beg leave to report, that they employed Bro. MATHEW BISHOP one half of his time for the current year—services to commence first of January last, and close first of January, 1851, for the sum of $270. Your Board also employed brother WM. HOWARD, from the 28th of July to the 11th inst., for $112 50.

Brother BISHOP reports that he has traveled in the service of the Board twelve hundred and sixty miles, preached ninety-five sermons, conducted eleven protracted meetings, baptized fifty-two, received three who were baptized by another minister, received six by voucher, and constituted two churches; also, distributed sixty or seventy religious books, mostly Bibles and Testaments.

Brother HOWARD reports that he has traveled in the service of the Board five hundred and sixty-eight miles, preached fifty-one sermons, delivered thirty-one exhortations, and assisted brother Bishop in conducting eleven protracted meetings.

For further information, your Board would refer you to the reports of your Missionaries. All of which is respectfully submitted.

LAVID LEE, *Prest.*

REPORT ON STATE OF THE CHURCHES.

We, your Committee, find by an examination of the Letters of the respective Churches, to our great satisfaction, that some of our Churches have been refreshed and strengthened; while others, we regret to see, are in a cold and languid state, as will abundantly appear by the Tabular Statement. P. H. LUNDY, *Chairman.*

REPORT ON DOCUMENTS.

The Committee on Documents beg leave to submit the following report:

The newly constituted Churches—*Philadelphia*, Montgomery county, and *Zion*, Covington county, request the Association to supply them with the preached Gospel. Your Committee therefore recommend to this body that they instruct their Missionary to supply the destitution of these Churches.

Your Committee find in the letter from Fair Prospect Church an account of a destitute portion of God's vineyard in that vicinity, and a suggestion with regard to the propriety of occupying this ground, together with a request from this people that this body would remember them in their destitution. We recommend that the Association refer the matter to the Missionary Board, with instructions to supply the destitution, if practicable.

Greenville Church desires help from this body. Your Committee are satisfied that our missionary field is already larger than we are able to occupy; but while we consider it our duty to occupy as much of this ground as we are able, we deem it equally important to maintain every inch of ground already obtained. Your Committee, therefore, earnestly recommend to this body that they take this matter into consideration; and, seeing that it is very difficult to obtain suitable men to take the field, which is already white for harvest, we deem it most advisable that this body, as far as practicable, furnish Greenville Church with pecuniary aid, so that together with what she may be able to do for herself, the church may be supplied with preaching. And, to this end, we recommend that this Association instruct her Missionary Board to pay over to Greenville Church such sum as this body shall deem it expedient to give, whenever said church shall apply for the same, to be appropriated to the purposes herein named.

We heartily commend our brethren of Tuskegee Association, in their laudable undertaking of erecting a Female Seminary, to be located at Tuskegee, and they have our prayers and good wishes for their success. Respectfully submitted.

D. P. J. MURPHY, *Ch'n.*

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS.

The Committee to whom was refered the subject of Missions ask leave to make the following report:

It is not presumed by the Committee that the Association would expect from them a report entirely correct, or searching in its details—from the fact that no documents have been furnished them, upon which such a report could be based—they therefore must rely upon their recollection for such facts as may be presented.

In our Foreign Missionary operations, we have cause for both lamentation and rejoicing. While we would rejoice at the goodness of God, in prospering our efforts amongst the heathern, in extending the Gospel of Jesus Christ, we are checked in our feelings when we recollect that some of our most efficient laborers have fallen in the field.

In Africa, there seems to be a prosperous state of things—many have been added to the church. Although we are pained to announce the death of Bro. Goodale, who labored in that field, Bro. Bowen, whose life has been in a precarious condition, has recovered, and is now at his post.

The China Mission seems to be in a like condition with that of Africa. The New Chapel has been completed and occupied, and great accessions have been made to the church, such as we trust will be saved. And here we have to record the death of Mrs Tobey and Mrs Whilden; and also the return to the United States of brethren Tobey and Johnson. Bro. Roberts, however, has returned to Canton, the field of his labors.

The Indian cause appears, from all accounts, to be in a very prosperous condition. Several native preachers have recently taken the field to proclaim the Gospel to their own countrymen. And here we are again met by the death of Mrs. Potts and Mrs. McCoy; therefore, in viewing the whole field, we feel encouraged to press forward in the work that is before us, relying upon God to give the increase in due season.

While upon the subject of Foreign Missions—although not coming clearly within the province of the committee—yet we feel it our duty to bring to your notice, as a matter of record, the lamentable fact of the death of the great and good Dr. Judson, who may be well considered one of the Fathers of the *Mission Cause.*

With regard to the operations within the bounds of our Association, the Reports of our Domestic Missionaries, as well as the Report of our Missionary Board, are before you; and, in view of all that has been accomplished, we may well ask, "what hath God wraught?"—and should we not feel encouraged to greater exertions in this wide field of labor?

Under a Resolution of the last Association, the Ministers and Members of the Association were requested to meet at Town Creek Church, in order to adopt some systematic plan of Christian Benevolence within the bounds of this Association; and, in accordance with that request, a portion of the brethren met and adopted what is called the *Card System.* Under that plan, several of the churches have acted, and forwarded their funds to the Association, and from all we are able to learn, your committee are well convinced it is perhaps the very best plan that could have been adopted.

In the first place, an increase of funds has been obtained. Secondly, the amount collected has been more equally distributed amongst those whose duty it is to give. Thirdly, more objects, and a choice of objects of benevolence are presented to every one; and, fourthly, your committee believe, if properly and systematically carried out by all the churches within the limits of this Association, those agents who have heretofore been amongst, (and sometimes annoying to us,) and yet considered necessary, as well as the great expense thereto attached, may well be dispensed with. Therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Association being considered, and so declared to be, the advisory council of all the churches of which she is constituted, recommend to them to adopt what is called the *Card Plan* of collecting funds, that we may all pull together, and at the same time, in that great and glorious cause in which we trust we are all earnestly and prayerfully engaged.

Respectfully submitted.

R. J. WARE, *Cha'n.*

TREASURER'S REPORT.

W. B. Haralson, Treasurer Alabama Baptist Association,
Dr. *In account with said Association.* Cr.

1850.
Oct. 12. To balance in hand, from acc't of last Associational year, 1850, $355 24
To cash rec'd for Associational year 1851, to-wit:

Of Providence Ch.	$20	00
" Centre Ridge "	36	10
" Mt. Lebanon "	3	00
" Siloam "	3	50
" Bethany "	15	25
" Hopewell "	2	00
" Hick'y Grove "	20	00
" Hayneville "	11	00
" Antioch "	10	50
" Montgomery "	20	00
" Pisgah "	11	00
" Elim "	27	50
" Unity "	9	05
" Panther Cr'k "	7	05
" Rehoboth "	40	00
" Ebenezer "	7	40
" Fair Prospect "	10	00
		$253 35
		$608 59

Pledges for Assoc'l year, 1851, to wit:

Shiloh Church,	$20 00
Damascus "	6 00
Town Cr'k "	50 00
Benton "	35 00
Bethany "	9 75
Ash Creek "	20 00
Hopewell "	24 00
Smyrna "	10 00
Mt. Gilead "	19 00
Whole am't pl'g'd,	$193 75
" " cash,	608 59
" " both,	$802 34

1850.
Oct. 14. By cash paid H. Talbird, one of the Delegates to State Convention, as per receipt of this date, $342 08

DR.
To cash rec'd for the following objects, to be sent up to the Convention, to-wit:

For General Dom. Missions,	$40	47
" Foreign do.	53	85
" Indian do.	39	85
" Ben. Howard College,	25	92
" Bible Distribution	36	52
" Southern P. Society,	21	92
" China Mission,	10	00
Saturday coll'n for Ind. Miss.	37	00
From the Montgomery Ch. for the above objects,	283	00
Sabbath collection, divided equally between Gen'l Do. Miss., For. M. & Ind. Mis.	77	55
	$626	08

BOOK FUND.

Amount of cash on hand from last year, - - -	$22 30
Received from sundry persons to redeem pledges,	21 00
Whole amount on hand to date,	$43 30

Paid for printing 1500 copies of these Minutes, - - $46 00

DECLARATION OF FAITH

OF THE

ALABAMA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

Article I. Of the Scriptures.—We believe the Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired, and is a perfect treasure of heavenly instruction (*a*); that it has God for its Author (*b*), salvation for its end (*c*), and truth without any mixture of error for its matter (*d*); that it reveals the principles by which God will judge us (*e*); and therefore is, and shall remain to the end of the world, the true centre of Christian union (*f*), and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds, and opinions, should be tried (*g*).

(*a*) All Scripture is given by inspiration of God; and *is profitable* for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works—2 *Tim.* iii, 16, 17. (*b*) For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man; but holy men of God spake *as they were* moved by the Holy Ghost—2 *Peter* i, 21. (*c*) These things are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that, believing, ye might have life through his name—*John* xx, 31. (*d*) For the word of the Lord *is* right; and all his works *are done* in truth—*Psalm* xxxiii, 4. (*e*) God shall judge the secrets of men, according to my Gospel—*Rom.* ii, 10. And the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works—*Rev.* xx, 12. (*f*) Though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other Gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed—*Gal.* i, 9. (*g*) If any *man* preach any other Gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed—*Gal.* i, 10.

Art. II. Of the True God.—That there is one, and only one, true and living God (*a*), whose name is Jehovah (*b*), the Maker and Supreme Ruler of heaven and earth (*c*); inexpressibly glorious in holiness; worthy of all confidence and love (*d*); revealed under the personal and relative distinctions of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, equal in every divine perfection (*e*), and executing distinct but harmonious offices in the great work of redemption (*f*).

(*a*) God is one—*Gal.* iii, 20. (*b*) That *men* may know that thou, whose name is Jehovah, art the Most High over all the earth—*Psalm* lxxxiii, 18. (*c*) For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible—*Col.* i, 16. (*d*) Who is like thee, glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, doing wonders—*Ex.* xv, 11. (*e*) For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost; and these three are one—1 *John* v, 7. For in Him dwelleth all the fullness of the Godhead bodily—*Col.* ii, 9. Who, being

in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God—*Phil.* ii, 6. (*f*) God sent his Son into the world, that the world through him might be saved—*John* iii, 17. Christ died for our sins, according to the Scriptures—*Cor.* xv, 3. And was raised again for our justification—*Rom.* iv, 25. He ever liveth to make intercession for them—*Heb.* vii, 25. It is the Spirit that quickeneth—*John* vi, 63.

Art. III. Of the Fall of Man.—That man was created in a state of holiness, under the law of his Maker (*a*), but by voluntary transgression fell from that holy and happy state; in consequence of which all mankind are now sinners, not by constraint but choice (*b*), being by nature utterly void of that holiness required by the law of God, wholly given to the gratification of the world, of Satan, and of their own sinful passions (*c*); and therefore under just condemnation to eternal ruin, without defence and excuse (*d*).

(*a*) So God created man in his own image—*Gen.* i, 27. God made man upright—*Ec.* vii, 29. (*b*) In Adam all die—1 *Cor.* xv, 22. There is none righteous, no, not one—*Rom.* iii, 10. Ye are of *your* father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do—*John* viii, 44. (*c*) He that believeth not is condemned already: because he hath not believed on the name of the only-begotton Son of God—*John* iii, 18. Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction—2 *Thes.* i, 8. (*d*) And he was speechless—*Mat.* xxii, 12. For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, *even* his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse—*Rom.* i, 20.

Art. IV. Of the way of Salvation.—That the salvation of sinners is wholly of grace (*a*), through the mediatorial offices of the Son of God (*b*), who took on him our nature, yet without sin (*c*); honored the law by his personal obedience, and made atonement for our sins by his death (*d*); being risen from the dead, he is now enthroned in heaven (*e*); and uniting in his wonderful person, the tenderest sympathies with divine perfections, is every way qualified to be a suitable, a compassionate, and an all-sufficient Saviour (*f*).

(*a*) For by grace are ye saved, through faith; and that not of yourselves: *it is* the gift of God—*Eph.* ii, 8. (*b*) For *there is* one God and *one* Mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus—1 *Tim.* ii, 5. (*c*) For as much as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also took part of the same—*Heb.* ii, 14. And in him is no sin—1 *John* iii, 5. (*d*) The Lord is well pleased, for his righteousness' sake: He will magnify the law and make it honorable—*Isa.* xlii, 21. We were reconciled to God by the death of his Son—*Rom.* v, 10. (*e*) But we see Jesus—crowned with glory and honor—*Heb.* ii, 9. (*f*) For we have an high priest that can be touched with the feelings of our infirmities—*Heb.* iv, 15. For in him dwelleth the fullness of the Godhead bodily—*Col.* ii, 9.

Art. V. Of Justification.—That the great Gospel blessing, which Christ of his fullness bestows on such as believe in him, is Justification (*a*); that Justification consists in the pardon of sin and promise of eternal life, on principles of righteousness (*b*); that it is bestowed, not in consideration of any works of righteousness which we have done, but solely through his own

redemption and righteousness (*c*); that it brings us into a state of most blessed peace and favor with God, and secures every other blessing needful for time and eternity (*d*).

(*a*) Therefore being justified by faith we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ—*Rom.* v, 1. (*b*) Whosoever believeth in Him shall receive remission of sins—*Acts* x, 30. He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life—*John* iii, 36. Whom God hath set forth *to be* a propitiation, through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God—*Rom.* iii, 25. (*c*) Not by works of righteousness, which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Ghost—*Titus* iii, 5. (*d*) He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?—*Rom.* viii, 32.

Art. VI. Of the freeness of Salvation.—That the blessings of salvation are made free to all by the Gospel (*a*); that it is the immediate duty of all to accept them by a cordial and obedient faith (*b*); and that nothing prevents the salvation of the greatest sinner on earth, except his own voluntary refusal to submit to the Lord Jesus Christ (*c*); which refusal will subject him to an aggravated condemnation (*d*).

(*a*) Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and *there is* none else—*Isa.* xlv, 22. Whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely—*Rev.* xxii, 17. (*b*) Now he commandeth all men everywhere to repent—*Acts* xvii, 30. (*c*) Ye will not come unto me that ye might have life—*John* v, 40. (*d*) It shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom, in the day of judgment, than for thee—*Mat.* xi, 24.

Art. VII. Of Grace in Regeneration.—That in order to be saved, we must be regenerated, or born again (*a*); that Regeneration consists in giving a holy disposition to the mind, and is effected in a manner above our comprehension or calculation, by the power of the Holy Spirit, so as to secure our voluntary obedience to the Gospel (*b*); and that its proper evidence is found in the holy fruit we bring forth to the glory of God (*c*).

(*a*) Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God—*John* iii, 3. (*b*) And be renewed in the spirit of your mind. And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness—*Eph.* iv, 23, 24. The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit—*John* iii, 8. Every one that loveth, is born of God, and knoweth God—1 *John* iv, 7. If a man love me, he will keep my words—*John* xiv, 23. (*c*) For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them—*Eph.* ii, 10. We know that whosoever is born of God sinneth not—1 *John* v, 18.

Art. VIII. Of God's purpose of Grace—That election is the gracious purpose of God, according to which he regenerates, sanctifies, and saves sinners (*a*); that being perfectly consistent with the free agency of man, it comprehends all the means in connection with the end (*b*); that it is a most glorious display of God's sovereign goodness, being infinitely wise, holy, and unchangeable; that it utterly excludes boasting, and

promotes humility, prayer, praise, trust in God, and active imitation of his free mercy (*c*); that it encourages the use of means in the highest degree (*d*); that it is ascertained by its effects in all who believe the Gospel (*e*); is the foundation of Christian assurance (*f*); and that, to ascertain it with regard to ourselves, demands and deserves our utmost diligence (*g*).

(*a*) God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation, through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth—2 *Thes.* ii. 13. (*b*) Therefore I endure all things for the elect's sake, that they may obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory—2 *Tim.* ii, 10. (*c*) According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy, and without blame before him in love—*Eph.* i. 4. (*d*) Therefore I endure all things for the elect's sake, that they may obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory. (*e*) And they that are with him are called, and chosen, and faithful—*Rev.* xvii, 14. (*f*) Who shall lay anything to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth. Who is he that condemneth?—*Rom.* viii, 33, 34. (*g*) Wherefore the rather, brethren, give all diligence to make your calling and election sure—2 *Peter* i, 10.

Art. IX. Of the perseverance of Saints.—That such only are real believers as endure unto the end [*a*]; that their persevering attachment to Christ is the grand mark which distinguishes them from superficial professors [*b*]; that a special Providence watches over their welfare; and they are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation [*c*].

(*a*) Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin because he is born of God. In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil—1 *John* iii, 9, 10. (*b*) They went out from us, but they were not of us—1 *John* ii, 19. (*c*) God is faithful who will not suffer you to be tempted above that you are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it—1 *Cor.* x, 13. Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation, ready to be revealed in the last time—1 *Peter* i, 5.

Art. X. Harmony of the Law and Gospel.—That the law of God is the eternal and unchangeable rule of his moral government [*a*]; that it is holy, just, and good [*b*]; that the inability which the Scriptures ascribe to fallen men to fulfil its precepts, arises entirely from their love of sin; to deliver them from which, and to restore them, through a Mediator, to unfeigned obedience to the holy law, is one great end of the Gospel, and of the means of grace connected with the establishment of a visible Church [*c*].

(*a*) Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled—*Mat.* v, 18. (*b*) Wherefore the law is holy, and the commandment holy, and just, and good—*Rom.* vi, 12. (*c*) That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit—*Rom.* viii, 4. Do we then make void the law through faith? God forbid: yea, we establish the law—*Rom.* iii, 31.

Art. XI. Of a Gospel Church.—That a visible Church of Christ is a congregation of baptized believers, associated by

covenant in the faith and fellowship of the Gospel; observing the ordinances of Christ; [*a*] governed by his laws, and exercising the gifts, rights and privileges invested in them by his word [*b*]; that its only proper officers are bishops or pastors, and deacons, whose qualifications, claims, and duties, are defined in the Epistles to Timothy and Titus [*c*].

(*a*) Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, to all that be in Rome, beloved of God, called to be saints—*Rom.* i, 7. Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death—*Rom.* vi, 3. Paul, an apostle unto the Churches of Galatia—*Gal.* i, 1, 2. For ye are the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as have been baptized into Jesus Christ, have put on Christ—*Gal.* iii, 26, 27. (*b*) Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. And there are differences of administration, but the same Lord—1 *Cor.* xii, 4, 5. (*c*) A Bishop, then must be blameless—1 *Tim.* iii, 1, 7. Likewise must the Deacons be grave—1 *Tim.* iii, 8, 9, 10; see also *Titus* i, 7, 8, 9. Let the Elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honor, especially they who labor in word and doctrine; and, the laborer is worthy of his reward. Against an Elder receive not an accusation, but before two or three witnesses—1 *Tim.* 17, 18, 19.

Art. XII. Of Baptism and the Lord's Supper—That Christian Baptism is the immersion of a believer in water, in the name of the Father, Son, and Spirit [*a*]; to show forth, in a solemn and beautiful emblem, our *faith* in a crucified and risen Saviour, with its purifying power [*b*]; that it is a prerequisite to the privileges of a Church relation; and to the Lord's Supper [*c*]; in which the members of the Church, by the use of bread and wine, are to commemorate together the dying love of Christ; preceded always by solemn self-examination [*d*].

(*a*) See, here is water: what doth hinder me to be baptized? And Philip said, If thou believest with all thy heart, thou mayest: and he said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. And they went down into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him—*Acts* viii, 36, 37, 38. Go ye, therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost—*Mat.* xxviii, 19. (*b*) Buried with him in Baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him, through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead—*Col.* ii, 12. (*c*) Except a man be born of water, and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God—*John* iii, 5. Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and brake it, and gave it to the disciples. And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread—*Acts* xx, 7. For as oft as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come—1 *Cor.* xi, 36. (*d*) But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread and drink of that cup—verse 28.

Art. XIII. Of the Christian Sabbath.—That the first day of the week is the Lord's Day, or Christian Sabbath [*a*], and is to be kept sacred to religious purposes, by abstaining from all secular labor and recreations [*b*]; by the devout observance of all the means of grace, both private and public [*c*]; and by preparation for that rest which remaineth for the people of God [*d*].

(*a*) I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day—*Rev.* i, 10. (*b*) Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy—*Ex.* xx, 8. For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day; wherefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it—verse 11. (*c*) Upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow—*Acts* xx, 7. (*d*) There remaineth, therefore, a rest to the people of God—*Heb.* iv, 9. Let us labor, therefore, to enter into that rest—verse 11.

Art. XIV. Of Civil Government.—That civil government is of Divine appointment, for the interest and good order of human society [*a*]; and that magistrates are to be prayed for [*b*], conscientiously honored and obeyed [*c*], except in things opposed to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ [*d*], who is the only Lord of the conscience, and Prince of the kings of the earth [*e*].

(*a*) For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God—*Rom.* xiii, 1. For he is the minister of God to thee for good—verse 4. For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to evil—verse 3. (*b*) I exhort, therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; for kings and for all that are in authority—1 *Tim.* i, 1, 2. (*c*) Wherefore ye must needs be subject, not only for wrath, but also for conscience' sake—*Rom.* xiii, 5. (*d*) We ought to obey God rather than men—*Acts* v, 29. (*e*) Christ is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords—1 *Tim.* vi, 15.

Art. XV. Of the Righteous and the Wicked.—That there is a radical and essential difference between the righteous and the wicked [*a*]; that such only as through faith are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and sanctified by the Spirit of God, are truly righteous in his esteem [*b*], while all such as continue in impenitence and unbelief, are in his sight wicked, and under the curse [*c*]; and this distinction holds among men both in and after death [*d*].

(*a*) He that is not with me is against me—*Luke* xi, 23. Now, if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his—*Rom.* viii, 9. In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: whosoever doeth not righteousness, is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother—1 *John* iii, 10. (*b*) To declare, I say, at this time, his righteousness; that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus—*Rom.* iii, 26. But ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God—1 *Cor.* vi, 11. (*c*) Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish—*Luke* xiii, 3. He that believeth not is condemned already—*John* iii, 18. (*d*) He that is unjust, let him be unjust still; and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still; and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still; and he that is holy, let him be holy still—*Rev.* xxii, 11.

Art. XVI. Of the World to Come.—That the end of this world is approaching [*a*]; that at the last day Christ will descend from heaven, and raise the dead from the grave to final retribution (*b*); that a solemn separation will then take place (*c*); that the wicked will be adjudged to endless punishment, and the righteous to endless joy (*d*); and that this judgment will

fix forever the final state of men in heaven or hell, on principles of righteousness (*e*).

(*a*) But the end of all things is at hand; be ye therefore sober, and watch unto prayer—1 *Peter* iv, 7. (*b*) For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first—1 *Thes.* iv, 6. All that are in their graves shall hear his voice, and shall come forth: they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation—*John* v, 28, 29. (*c*) And before him shall be gathered together all nations; and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth the sheep from the goats—*Mat.* xxv, 32. (*d*) And these shall go away into everlasting punishment; but the righteous into life eternal—*Mat.* xxv, 32. (*e*) And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them; and they were judged every man according to his works. And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death—*Rev.* xx, 13, 14. SHALL NOT THE JUDGE OF ALL THE EARTH DO RIGHT?—*Gen.* xviii, 25.